

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said one or more forms of data are selected from the group consisting text, digital photographs, digital video, barcodes, digital sketches, digital signatures, audio, GPS, GIS, document scan, print scan, CAD/CAM scan, and interactive data retrieval from another system.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Currently amended) A method for mobile data collection comprising the steps of:
 - (a)- inputting one or more forms of data into one or more handheld devices wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device ~~in~~ using a data collection template;
 - (b)- toggling between said step (a)- of inputting data using a data collection template and inputting data from a digital camera, and
 - (c)- organizing said inputted data into a record at said one or more handheld devices; and
 - (d)- synchronizing data from said record for manipulating said data into one or more classifications to form synchronized data;wherein said data is inputted into said one or more handheld devices in step (a)- using a data collection template and said data from said digital camera is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of said data from said digital camera.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein after said step of inputting data from said digital camera further comprising the steps of:
 - overlaying an electronic sketch over said data from said digital camera,

wherein said data from said digital camera and said overlaid electronic sketch is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of data from said digital camera.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein after step (d)- further comprising the steps of:

(e)- optimizing said synchronized data based on a predetermined criteria; and

(f)- generating an optimized data collection template; and

repeating steps (a)- through (d)- wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device in step (a)- using said optimized data collection template.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said predetermined criteria is a frequency of use of said data inputted into said handheld device.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said predetermined criteria is a desired information request.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said predetermined criteria is a statistical program.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said step (e)- optimizing said synchronized data further comprises the step of:

adding answers inputted in said data collection template to said optimized data collection template.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said data collection template comprises:

a user interface comprising one or more prompts for gathering said data using said handheld device, said prompts being visual, sound, code, or vibration.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said optimized data collection template comprises:

a user interface comprising one or more prompts for gathering said data using said handheld device, said prompts being visual, sound, code, or vibration.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said data collection template is an electronic form comprising one or more menus or submenus.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein said optimized data collection template is an electronic form comprising one or more submenus which are a re-order of entries of said one or more menus or submenus of said data collection template.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein after said step (c)₁ of synchronized data further comprising the step of:

forwarding said record to a central processing system and said step (e)₁ is performed at said central processing system.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of: storing said synchronized data.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of: generating a report from said synchronized data.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of: printing said report.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said report is a standard or custom report.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein before step (a)₁ further comprises the step of:

forwarding a previously generated record to said handheld device.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said step (e)₁ of synchronizing data step comprises the steps of:

manipulating said data in said record into a synchronization table; and

filtering said data in said synchronization table to one or more relationship tables.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of: combining said one or more relationship tables based on a predetermined criteria for generating an optimized data collection template and repeating steps (a)₁ through (e)₁ wherein subsequent data is inputted into said handheld device using said optimized data collection template.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 wherein a plurality of handheld devices are used for inputting said data.

24. (Canceled).
25. (Canceled).
26. (Canceled).
27. (Canceled).
28. (Canceled).
29. (Canceled).
30. (Canceled).
31. (Canceled).
32. (Canceled).
33. (Canceled).
34. (Canceled).
35. (Canceled).
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38. (Canceled).
39. (Canceled).
40. (Canceled).
41. (Canceled).
42. (Canceled).
43. (Canceled).
44. (Canceled).
45. (Canceled).
46. (Canceled).
47. (Canceled).
48. (Canceled).
49. (Canceled).
50. (Canceled).

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein said one or more forms of data are selected from the group consisting text, digital photographs, digital video, barcodes,

digital sketches, digital signatures, audio, GPS, GIS, document scan, print scan, CAD/CAM scan, and interactive data retrieval from another system.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein said data is in the form of a barcode attached to said fire barrier.

53. (Currently amended) A method for mobile data collection in inspection of a fire barrier comprising the steps of:

(a)- inputting one or more forms of data of an inspection of said fire barrier into one or more handheld devices using data collection templates;

(b)- toggling between said step (a)- of inputting data using a data collection template and inputting data from a digital camera,

(c)- organizing said inputted data into a record; and

(d) synchronizing data from said record for manipulating said data into one or more classifications to form synchronized data;

wherein said data from said digital camera is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of said data from said digital camera.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein after said step of inputting data from said digital camera further comprising the steps of:

overlaying an electronic sketch over said data from said digital camera,

wherein said data from said digital camera and said overlaid electronic sketch is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of data from said digital camera.

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 53 wherein after step (d)- further comprising the steps of:

(e)- optimizing said synchronized data based on a predetermined criteria; and

(f)- generating an optimized data collection template; and

repeating steps (a)- through (d)- wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device in step (a)- using said optimized data collection template.

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim 53 wherein said step (e)- optimizing said synchronized data further comprises the step of:

adding answers inputted in said data collection template to said optimized data collection template.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein said data collection template is an electronic form comprising one or more menus or submenus.

58. (Original) The method of claim 55 wherein said optimized data collection template is an electronic form comprising one or more submenus which are a re-order of entries of said one or more menus or submenus of said data collection template.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein a repair order is generated from said synchronized data.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein a report of said fire barrier is generated from said synchronized data.

61. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising the step of:
re-inspecting said fire barrier after a repair of said fire barrier is performed from said repair order.

62. (Original) The method of claim 59 further comprising the step of:
storing said synchronized data.

63. (Currently amended) The method of claim 59 further comprising the steps of:
combining said one or more relationship tables based on a predetermined criteria for generating an optimized data collection template and repeating steps (a)- through (d)- wherein subsequent data is inputted into said handheld device using said optimized data collection template.

64. (Canceled).

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said one or more forms of data are selected from the group consisting text, digital photographs, digital video, barcodes, digital sketches, digital signatures, audio, GPS, GIS, document scan, print scan, CAD/CAM scan, and interactive data retrieval from another system.

66. (Currently amended) A method for mobile data collection in a quality assurance application comprising the steps of:

(a)- inputting one or more forms of data of quality assurance into one or more handheld devices using data collection templates;

(b)- toggling between said step (a)- of inputting data using a data collection template and inputting data from a digital camera,

(c)- organizing said inputted data into a record; and

(d)- synchronizing data from said record for manipulating said data into one or more classifications to form synchronized data;

wherein said data from said digital camera is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of said data from said digital camera.

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein after said step of inputting data from said digital camera further comprising the steps of:

overlaying an electronic sketch over said data from said digital camera,

wherein said data from said digital camera and said overlaid electronic sketch is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of data from said digital camera.

68. (Currently amended) The method of claim 66 wherein after step (c)- further comprising the steps of:

(e)- optimizing said synchronized data based on a predetermined criteria; and

(f)- generating an optimized data collection template; and

repeating steps (a)- through (c)- wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device in step (a)- using said optimized data collection template.

69. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 further comprising the step of: storing said synchronized data.

70. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 further comprising the step of: generating a report of quality assurance from said synchronized data.

71. (Canceled).

72. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 wherein said one or more forms of data are selected from the group consisting text, digital photographs, digital video, barcodes,

digital sketches, digital signatures, audio, GPS, GIS, document scan, print scan, CAD/CAM scan, and interactive data retrieval from another system.

73. (Currently amended) A method for mobile data collection in a boat survey application comprising the steps of:

(a)- inputting one or more forms of data of a boat survey into one or more handheld devices using data collection templates;

(b)- toggling between said step (a)- of inputting data using a data collection template and inputting data from a digital camera,

(c)- organizing said inputted data into a record; and

(d)- synchronizing data from said record for manipulating said data into one or more classifications to form synchronized data,

wherein said data from said digital camera is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of said data from said digital camera.

74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 wherein after said step of inputting data from said digital camera further comprising the steps of:

overlaying an electronic sketch over said data from said digital camera,

wherein said data from said digital camera and said overlaid electronic sketch is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of data from said digital camera.

75. (Currently amended) The method of claim 73 wherein after step (d)- further comprising the steps of:

(d)- optimizing said synchronized data based on a predetermined criteria; and

(e)- generating an optimized data collection template; and

repeating steps (a)- through (d)- wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device in step (a)- using said optimized data collection template.

76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further comprising the step of: storing said synchronized data.

77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further comprising the step of: generating a report from said synchronized data.

78. (Canceled).

79. (Previously presented) The method of claim 80 wherein said one or more forms of data are selected from the group consisting text, digital photographs, digital video, barcodes, digital sketches, digital signatures, audio, GPS, GIS, document scan, print scan, CAD/CAM scan, and interactive data retrieval from another system.

80. (Currently amended) A method for data collection in a police department application comprising the steps of:

(a)- inputting one or more forms of data of a police department application into one or more handheld devices using data collection templates;

(b) toggling between said step (a)- of inputting data using a data collection template and inputting data from a digital camera,

(c) organizing said inputted data into a record; and

(d)- synchronizing data from said record for manipulating said data into one or more classifications to form synchronized data,

wherein said data from said digital camera is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of said data from said digital camera.

81. (Previously presented) The method of claim 80 wherein after said step of inputting data from said digital camera further comprising the steps of:

overlaying an electronic sketch over said data from said digital camera,

wherein said data from said digital camera and said overlaid electronic sketch is inputted into said record with said data from said data collection template at the time of capture of data from said digital camera.

82. (Currently amended) The method of claim 80 wherein after step (d)- further comprising the steps of:

(e)- optimizing said synchronized data based on a predetermined criteria; and

(f)- generating an optimized data collection template; and

repeating steps (a)- through (d)- wherein said data is inputted into said handheld device in step (a)- using said optimized data collection template.

83. (Previously presented) The method of claim 80 further comprising the step of:

storing said synchronized data.

84. (Previously presented) The method of claim 80 further comprising the step of:
generating a report of a police department application from said synchronized data.